GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2240
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Agricultural Education
Sathyabama Smt. V.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to popularize the agricultural education;

(b) whether teachers and other facilities are available for new curriculum in the agricultural institutes, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the key recommendations of the committee constituted by Agriculture Research Council to bring change in the curriculum of agricultural education and the details of the recommendations implemented by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a) (i) To popularize and promote Higher Agricultural Education in the country, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conducts the All India Entrance Examination annually for admissions to 15% seats in Bachelor degree programmes, 25% seats each in Master's and Ph.D. degree programmes in Agricultural Universities. ICAR awards National Talent Scholarship (NTS) in Agriculture & Allied Science subjects for pursuing UG and PG programmes outside their state of domicile, Junior Research Fellowships (JRFs) for pursuing Masters programme and Senior Research Fellowships for pursuing Ph.D. degree programmes in Agriculture & Allied Sciences. In addition, Merit-cum-Means and Post-Metric Scholarships are also given to attract meritorious undergraduate students belonging to below poverty line and from the weaker section of the society.

(ii) Student READY (Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana) Programme to develop Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness among agricultural students has been launched by Hon'ble prime Minister on 25.07.2015

(iii) The ICAR provides limited need based funding for student and faculty amenities, renovation, modernization of laboratories, smart classrooms modernization of farms and state of art equipments for Central instrumentation laboratory and UG and PG laboratories for strengthening of teaching and learning by providing support for curriculum development and to support PG research in basic and frontier science subjects under its Plan scheme, 'Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India'.

(iv) The confidence and skill of the students is enhanced through Experiential Learning Modules.

(v) To enhance the research capabilities and capacity building the centres, Niche Area of Excellence have been identified and the programme is aimed to achieve global competitiveness in agricultural education and research.

(b) The new curriculum is being implemented by the agricultural universities/institutes and the requirement of teachers and other facilities are taken care of by the respective universities/institutes.

(c) The Fifth Deans Committee Report has been approved to bring uniformity and upgradation in curricula to meet the present day demand of higher agricultural education in the country. The recommendations have been circulated to all Agricultural Universities for implementation. The key recommendation of committee is annexed (Annexure).

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